

# BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

## TAMA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH & HOME CARE

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**Tuesday May 27, 2025 – 12:00 P.M.**

**Meeting held at Tama County Annex Building and via Zoom**

<b>Members Present:</b>	Micki Ferris	Chris Behrens – via Zoom	Sherri Vesely – via Zoom
	Lori Johnson	Jolynn Harger	Sherry Parks – via Zoom
	Casey Schmidt	Heather Bombei -via Zoom	Sally Custer

**Members Absent:** Curt Hilmer

The meeting was called to order by Sherry Parks, Chairman at 12:01 p.m.

Sally Custer moved to accept the Agenda as presented. Micki Ferris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Micki Ferris moved to accept the Minutes of the April 28, 2025 meeting as presented. Sally Custer seconded, Motion carried unanimously.

### **Reports:**

#### **Environmental Report:**

Chris stated that he had been doing a lot of water tests due to the class that ISU Extension held about wells. He has done about 25 tests so far this Spring, with about 7 more to do. He will also be doing pool inspections as the pools start to open for the season.

#### **Director's Report - 10 Essential Public Health Services Framework – Lori Johnson**

- 1. Assess and Monitor population health status, factors that influence health and community needs and assets*
  - Food Pantry: Mobile food pantry continues monthly in Tama.
  - 5 Loaves Community Meal will be held every Thursday at the Tama Civic Center from 4:30-6:30 p.m., starting on June 5<sup>th</sup>. This is being started by four local women – Charlene Kenkel, Polly Hineman, Michelle Evans and Julie Rathjen.
- 2. Investigate, diagnose, and address health problems and hazards affecting the population*
  - Communicable Disease Investigations Started in April: no numbers available
  - Active & Latent TB Cases: no numbers available
  - Animal Bites: 1 in April
  - Rabies Update attended by Beth, Claire, LeeAnna, Kelly & Lori
  - Immunizations Given: 11 to 4 clients
- 3. Communicate effectively to inform and educate people about health, factors that influence it, and how to improve it*
  - Social Media Strategy: Job Ads, Severe Weather, Wear Blue for Child Abuse Awareness, Free Movies, Public Health Week, Sun Safety, Mental Health, Government Day, Measles, Benefits of Physical Activity, Stop the Bleed Trainings, Volunteer Appreciation, Shannon's Last Day, Administrative Professionals Day, Cancer in Iowa
  - Posts: 41
  - Coffee Talks: 6 scheduled, 1 cancelled due to no staff available, 21 attendees at 5 sites
- 4. Strengthen, support, and mobilize communities and partnerships to improve health*
  - Maternal Health: 3 visits provided
  - Nest: April topic was Self Care and Count the Kicks
  - MRC Unit information was updated and training attended 5/15 with Linda Botts by Lori

- SKIP: Meeting April 24, discussed future events . There were 10 Facebook posts.
  - SKIP events were held in April – Traer Theater 99 people attended. April 30<sup>th</sup> 116 people attended at the Wieting Theatre.
  - NEI3A/COA: Meeting was held May 20, discussion about current meal program and funding available
5. *Create, champion, and implement policies, plans, and laws that impact health*
6. *Utilize legal and regulatory actions designed to improve and protect the public's health*
- PHEP: Stop the Bleed Training provided to GMG (4/16 – 13 attendees); NT (04/30 – 9 attendees); and STC (5/7 – 18 attendees; 5/16 – 7 attendees) school districts.
  - JIS and PHEP meeting attended by Lori
7. *Assure and effective system that enables access to the individual services and care need to be health*
- Foot Clinics (6 clinics – 31 attendees)
  - 0 Blood Pressure Clinics in April
  - Home Health: 84.2% of referrals were admitted. 16 out of 19 referrals we received were admitted. (2 of these passed away before we could admit them and one remained in the Nursing Home)
  - Senior Movie Event (The King of Kings) was held on 04/30 – 25 people attended. Information was provided to attendees regarding community resources that are available.
8. *Build and support a diverse and skilled public health workforce*
- Applications received for Public Health Nurse and CEO/Executive Director positions. Interviews have been held last week and this week.
  - Evaluations were completed for 5 staff members that were past due.
9. *Improve and innovate public health functions through ongoing evaluation, research and continuous quality improvement*
- QAPI: 3 meetings were held with Annette Lee (minutes can be provided upon request), Home Health Consultant. Training with staff was postponed due to her father becoming ill. Looking at ways to improve our 5 Star Quality Rating and to increase reimbursement rates and streamline processes improving scoring. Set up training with SHP to see how we can improve our OASIS Assessment outcomes and to help better understand their software and reports. Reviewed Urgent Care Lists and will strive to contact them and let them know about our services.
10. *Build and maintain a strong organizational infrastructure for public health*
- VFC Site Visit was completed March 25<sup>th</sup>, we will need to be printing temperature logs from the digital data trackers every two weeks, currently we were utilizing written temperature checks done twice daily, we will add the data logs to this process every two weeks.
  - Tammy Schuett last day will be April 21<sup>st</sup>. She will be joining Mercy Care Tama. Some programs may have to be on hold until a new hire is selected.
  - Mel Blocker's last day was March 28, she took a position with Birkwood.
  - Attended Department Head Meeting reviewing current practices and handbook suggestions.
  - Jolynn submitted the Medicaid Revalidation Information
    - Information requested, i.e.: policies, etc.
    - Medicaid Onsite Review will be held June 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.
  - Claire, Beth, Jolynn and Lori all became IDSS users and set up their information for this system.

- Brainstorming ideas to tie our Community Health Needs Assessment and upcoming events to promote.
- RV was at the Supper with Super Heroes Event (288 burgers served), tours and blood pressures were done.
- RV was in the Lincoln Bridge Festival. Staff members handed out candy and COVID items we had on hand with a message on them about Emergency Preparedness.
- June 6<sup>th</sup> is the Family Fishing Event
- June 11<sup>th</sup> is the Health Fair at Iowa Premium

Most Popular Facebook was the post about Shannon leaving.

**Waiver:** April: Two patients were served under the Frail and Elderly Waiver. There were 3 Maternal Health Home visits in April.

#### **Financial Report:**

Admissions increased for the month of April. Skilled Nurse visits increased for April. Health Aide visits decreased and hours decreased for the month of April. Our revenue decreased for the month of April.

Sally Custer moved to approve the Financial Report. Casey Schmidt seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **New Business**

A. Lori shared with the Board that Sherry Park, Sally Custer and herself met with CEO/Executive Director Applicant Stacy Koeppen the previous Wednesday for an interview. They were all impressed with Stacy and she had good references. With the Boards permission they would like to offer employment to Stacy. Her date of hire will be July 1<sup>st</sup>, she was started at the bottom of the CEO/Executive Director wage scale and it will be depend on how the budget is if she receives a 6 month raise. There were multiple applicants for the position, but many were from out of State, Stacy is from Cedar Rapids. She grew up in Dennison, Iowa so she is familiar with small towns and rural areas. Upon Board approval and after the Board meeting, Lori will notify the Staff of her hire. Motion by Casey Schmidt to hire Stacy Koeppen for the position of CEO/Executive Director. Micki Ferris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Lori wanted to discuss a potential training contract with new hires. This has come about because a previous staff person was hired, the county paid for a large amount of training and the staff member left the position. Lori was waiting on HR to send information but has not received any information from him. HR did say that he didn't see the benefit of a contract for this position, but that we could make an employee pay a portion for the training. Discussion held. No action taken.

**Correspondence:** None.

**Public Comment:** The On-Call RN received a call this weekend regarding a possible case of Measles in a child in Tama County. They are waiting on results.

**Future Meeting Dates:** The next Board of Health meeting will be held on Monday, June 30, 2025 at Noon.

The meeting adjourned at 12:40 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jolynn Harger, Executive/Financial Assistant

***The full Zoom recording is available. It is available by request.***